# ST. BONAVENTURE CATHOLIC CHURCH

**Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**
**July 26, 2020**


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Web page: stbonaventureavondale.org
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/St-Bonaventure-Church

***Pastor:*** **Rev. Francis Offia**

**STAFF:**

***Secretary:*** Judy Guidroz

***CRE:*** Miranda Enclade

**Music Director:** Tina Adams

## MASS SCHEDULE

***Sunday: 8:00AM &*** **10:30 AM**

***Saturday Vigil:*** **5:00 PM**

***Tues., Wed, Thurs. & Friday:*** **8:30 AM**

## SACRAMENTS

***Confession:*** Saturday 4:30pm (or by appointment)

***Sacrament of Baptism:*** Call the office to schedule an appointment with Father. Parents and Godparents must attend a seminar.

***Sacrament of Matrimony:*** Arrangements should be made at least 6 months prior to expected wedding date. Call the office for details.

***Funerals:*** Please notify the priest before contacting the Funeral Home.

*"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon your shoulders and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble of heart, and you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light." Jesus – Mt. 11, 28-30*

# *Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

All things work for good for those who love God.
*— Romans 8:28a*

**St. Bonaventure Catholic Church**

**July 26, 2020**

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

**Saturday, *July 25,* Mass 5:00pm**

**L. H. Maria Nguyen T. Noi+; Phero & Maria Nguyen Ty+; Maria-OnThi Nguyen+; Phero-Guise Hoan Van Tran+; Gerald Matherne+; Dawn Gonzales+; Hashem Salomon+; Dotti Marshall+; Thomas Boudreaux+**

**Sunday, *July 26,* Mass 8:00am & Mass 10:30am**

**Maria On Thi Nguyen+; Phero Guise Hoan Van Tran+; Dominico Lam Van Tran+; Maria Bau Thi Nguyen+; Dottie Marshall+; Myron Berthelot+; Leah Trentacosta+; Ron Haley+**

**Monday, *July 27* — No Mass**

**Tuesday, *July 28* — *Mass 8:30am***

**Heintz & Piazza Families+;**

**Wednesday, *July 29* — *Mass 8:30am***

**Parishioners of St. Bonaventure:**

**Thursday, *July 30* — *Mass 8:30am***

**Parishioners of St. Bonaventure:**

**Friday, *July 31* — *Mass 8:30am***

**Parishioners of St. Bonaventure:**

**Mask mandate:** By order of the governor, masks are required at Mass and when doing business in the office. Please adhere to the mandate for the good of all and in order to ensure our church follows the guidelines and remains open.

Today, our parish will take up the 136th annual National Black and Indian Mission Collection. Our support of this collectn helps build the Church in African American, Native American, and Alaska Native communities from coast to coast. Schools, parish religious education programs, and diocesan ministries epend on your generosity to help them spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ! Thank you for your support.

**PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION**—
PSR Grades K-8th. & High School of Religion Grades 9-11—Registration Every Tuesday from 5:30—6:30pm at the School House.

***We Are All Stewards of Time, Talent & Treasure***
**Thank you for your time, talent & financial donations!**

*May God bless you for your generosity*

*Weekend of July 18/19*

*Envelopes—$1019.00 Loose— $180.00*

♦7/25-26 Black & Indian Home Mission

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

***MONDAY, July 27, 2020 —*** ♦

***TUESDAY, July 28, 2020 —*** ♦ Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Rosary 7:30-8:30am -Mass 8:30AM
- ♦ PSR & High School of Religion Registration 5:30-6:30pm
- ♦ Confirmation practice & Confession –6:00pm in Church

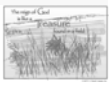
***WEDNESDAY, July 29, 2020 —*** ♦ Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Rosary 7:30-8:30am -Mass 8:30AM

***THURSDAY, July 30, 2020 —*** ♦ Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Rosary 7:30-8:30am -Mass 8:30AM

***FRIDAY, July 31, 2020 —*** ♦ Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Rosary 7:30-8:30am -Mass 8:30AM

***SATURDAY, August 1, 2020 —*** ♦ Confession — 4:30pm

***SUNDAY, August 2, 2020 —*** ♦ Mass 8:00am & 10:30am



**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

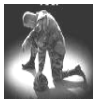
| | |
|---|---|
| Monday: | Jer 13:1-11; Dt 32:18-21; Mt 13:31-35 |
| Tuesday: | Jer 14:17-22; Ps 79:8, 9, 11, 13; Mt 13:36-43 |
| Wednesday: | Jer 15:10, 16-21; Ps 34:2-11; Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42 |
| Thursday: | Jer 18:1-6; Ps 146:1b-6ab; Mt 13:47-53 |
| Friday: | Jer 26:1-9; Ps 69:5, 8-10, 14; Mt 13:54-58 |
| Saturday: | Jer 26:11-16, 24; Ps 69:15-16, 30-31, 33-34; Mt 14:1-12 |

**GO** Go forth and set the world on fire. —St. Ignatius of Loyola

**Prayer for Protection against Storms and Hurricanes**

Our Father in heaven, through the intercession of Our Lady of Prompt Succor, spare us during this Hurricane season from all harm. Protect us and our homes from all disasters of nature. Our Lady of Prompt Succor, hasten to help us.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE IN MILITARY SERVICE AND FOR THEIR FAMILIES.**



**Prayer for Soldiers** Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. Amen.

## Pope's JULY Intention

**Universal prayer intention - Our Families**
We pray that today's families may be accompanied with love, respect, and guidance.

**Prayer Request:** LynLeigh Adams; Janell Angelle; Helga & Tina Barry; Pearl & Rebecca Berthelot; Todd Bordelon; Carl Cavelere; Jason Chiasson; Kai ye Chin; Cathy Condon; Shirley Doucet; Tammy Duhon; Ben, Brandon & Tim Guidroz; Ester Hammil; Charion Hemphill; Maria Hernandez; Kathleen, Donald, & Glenn Jeansonne; Joy & Norbert Labit; Gay Litolff; Kirk Litolff; JoAnn Leman; Gary & Holly Marshall; Theda Melarine; Cherie Mitchell; Carolyn & Arthur Moore; Anita Perkins; Janice Reiser; Jules & Michael Sancho; Lloyd Seneck; Al Stapler; Trent Trentacosta; "Mooney" Woods. Please call the office or send in your request to add or delete a loved one to the prayer list .

## This Week Sanctuary Candle burns For:

Parishioners of St. Bonaventure

### A SHARE IN GOD'S KINGDOM

Today concludes a three-week series of Gospel texts in which we have listened to a total of seven parables about the Kingdom. The believer is asked to consider the request that God made of Solomon in today's first reading: "Ask something of me and I will give it to you" (1 Kings 3:5). Today's parables about the treasure buried in the field and the pearl of great price should prompt us to answer, "A share in your kingdom, O God!" Today we discover that the kingdom of God is beyond value, a priceless treasure. Unfortunately, our culture bombards us with things that it believes are priceless treasures—the bigger and better SUVs, anti-aging and anti-balding creams and salves, miracle diets, and so much more. Having a share in God's kingdom and helping to bring about that kingdom are the greatest treasures that we can ever hope to gain.

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**TODAY'S READINGS**

**First Reading** — Solomon prays for an understanding heart (1 Kings 3:5, 7-12).

**Psalm** — Lord, I love your commands (Psalm 119).

**Second Reading** — All things work for good for those who love God (Romans 8:28-30).

**Gospel** — The one who knows of the kingdom of heaven brings new and old from the storeroom (Matthew 13:44-52 [44-46]).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

A profound stewardship prayer is offered by the young King Solomon in today's first reading. He asks the Lord to give him an understanding heart, compassion towards God's people and the insight to distinguish right from wrong. An understanding heart, or wisdom, is a gift from God. It is a gift that enables us to make good decisions and prudent choices. Cultivating and sharing this gift is essential, especially when poor decisions and lack of compassion have consequences that affect the lives of others.

**During these disquieting times, are we asking God for an understanding heart? Are we exercising good stewardship over the gift of wisdom? Are we sharing our compassionate hearts with others?**

### IN MEMORIAM

**Dorothy "Dottie" Marshall —April 14, 2020**

**Evelyn Cappell—May 6, 2020**

Please pray for Dottie Marshall and Evelyn Cappel and remember in sympathy their family and all who mourn their death. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Amen

### WHO IS FR FRANCIS: ADOLESCENCE/TEENAGE YEARS

My first time away from home, family, and the people I grew up with in my village was when I was 13yrs old. Living with the pastor of my home parish at the time had instilled in me the desire of becoming a priest even though I was so young to make that huge life decision. My mom very often recounted to me what she went through while I was in her womb and even after I was born. She would mention to me how in her prayers, she promised God that she will bring me up to love and serve Him. I was not sure if she meant serving God as a priest or through another ways. But such conversations, together with living in the parish rectory with a priest and serving Mass on regular basis first motivated me to think of becoming a priest at that tender age. So, upon finishing my elementary school, I took the entrance examination to go to the Minor Seminary for my secondary school education which supposed to be for six-years. My entrance examination result and the interview came out successful and so in the fall of 1993, I left home to a boarding school St Paul's Minor Seminary located just about 20miles away from home. This was a huge turning point in my life. I had grown up in a remote village where life in general was very informal and the way of doing things was typical of the African Agrarian community. My growing up was around my immediate family members and childhood friends from the same community, but now I have to go live and study with kids from different places, the majority of whom were born and brought up in the cities. A lot of challenges come with this new reality which I manage to navigate through My stay in the Minor Seminary lasted only two years before I withdrew. A lot of factors made it difficult for me to complete the six years of secondary school education there, coupled with the fact that my perception of seminary school and becoming a priest was not in tune with the reality on the ground. Upon leaving the minor seminary, my family arranged that I join someone in the city to learn a trade. This of course cut short my desire to pursue education in life. I lived and learned to trade in the Oil City of Port Harcourt for a period of two years before returning to my village with the sole purpose of going back to school to complete my secondary education. This was not much welcomed by most members of my family, but it was a decision I had to take at 17yrs old knowing that in life I need to learn to live with decisions The family dynamics, having not much support from those around me, financial constraints resulting from having to pay my way through the remaining part of my secondary education and lack of guidance made my teenage years somewhat rocky. Like many teens of today, I doubted a lot of things in life including my ability to succeed and my capability to take on difficult task s. I questioned a lot of things and treated certain institutions and authorities with suspicion. But I had one thing with me steady – Faith in Christ. In the darkest moments of my life, when it seems I was moving through a hole and might be consumed by my worries and anxieties, my prayer and sacramental life remained the solid rock to keep me going. Yes, I went through almost the same things the teens of today go through. I came out of to be the man I have become today because right from my mother's womb God has known and called me by name. He is the one who has been by my side always. The next phase will be my young adulthood.

To be continued

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